

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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COM(77) 12 final

Brussels, 2 February 1977

## Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

amending Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 as regards the  
rules on the maximum sulphur dioxide content of wine

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## Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

amending Regulation (EEC) No 2893/74 on sparkling wines  
produced in the Community and specified in item 12 of  
Annex II to Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 and Regulation  
(EEC) No 817/70 laying down special provisions relating  
to quality wines produced in specified regions

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(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

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## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The purpose of both these proposals for regulations is to extend for 6 months the provisions regarding the maximum sulphur dioxide content of wine for direct human consumption and of sparkling wine.

Although some of the sulphur dioxide levels at present permitted call for substantial reduction, in particular those of 300 mg, it seems premature to act at this stage, since the oenological processes now under comprehensive review by the Council working group have yet reached the stage of adoption by the Council itself, but a Council decision will certainly be taken in the course of this year, and the Commission will then be able to present to the Council a more restrictive proposal for a regulation on this matter.

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Proposal for  
COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

amending Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 as regards the  
rules on the maximum sulphur dioxide content of wine

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THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community  
and in particular Article 43 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament,

Whereas Article 26a of Council Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 of 28 April 1970  
laying down additional provisions for the common organization of the  
market in wine<sup>1</sup>, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2842/76<sup>2</sup>, provides  
for a transitional adjustment period in respect of the sulphur dioxide  
content of certain wines produced in the Community or imported from  
non-member countries and intended for direct human consumption, other than  
sparkling wines and liqueur wines; whereas this period was extended until  
28 February 1977 by Article 24 of Regulation (EEC) No 1160/76 of 17 May 1976  
amending Regulation (EEC) No 816/70<sup>3</sup>;

Whereas, in order to facilitate the process of adjustment, the transitional  
period should be further extended by 6 months

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<sup>1</sup> OJ No L 99, 5. 5.1970, p. 1  
<sup>2</sup> OJ No L 327, 26.11.1976, p. 2  
<sup>3</sup> OJ No L 135, 24. 5.1976, p. 1

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Article 26a of Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 is hereby amended as follows:

- in paragraph 1 "28 February 1977" shall read "28 February 1978";
- in paragraph 2 "31 December 1976" shall read "31 December 1977".

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third day following its publication in the Official Journal of the European Communities.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President

Proposal for  
COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

amending Regulation (EEC) No 2893/74 on sparkling wines  
produced in the Community and specified in item 12 of  
Annex II to Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 and Regulation  
(EEC) No 817/70 laying down special provisions relating  
to quality wines produced in specified regions

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THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community  
and in particular Article 43 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,

Whereas Articles 12 and 16 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2893/74 of  
18 November 1974 on sparkling wines produced in the Community and specified  
in item 12 of Annex II to Regulation (EEC) No 816/70<sup>1</sup>, as amended by  
Regulation (EEC) No 2426/76<sup>2</sup>, and Article 10b of Regulation (EEC) No 817/70<sup>3</sup>,  
as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2878/76<sup>4</sup>, provided for a transitional  
adjustment period in respect of the sulphur dioxide content of sparkling  
wines, quality sparkling wines and quality sparkling wines produced in  
specified regions; whereas that period was extended until 28 February 1977  
by Regulation (EEC) No 2426/76;

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<sup>1</sup> OJ No L 310, 21.11.1974, p. 1  
<sup>2</sup> OJ No L 276, 7.10.1976, p. 1  
<sup>3</sup> OJ No L 99, 5. 5.1970, p. 20  
<sup>4</sup> OJ No L 331, 30.11.1976, p. 3

Whereas, in order to facilitate the process of adjustment, the transitional period should be further extended by 6 months ;

Whereas the amendment of Article 18 of Regulation (EEC) No 816/70, whereby zone C I is divided into two parts, necessitates an amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 2893/74,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

#### Article 1

Regulation (EEC) No 2893/74 is amended as follows :

1. The date 28 February 1977 specified in the second subparagraph of Articles 12 (1) and 16 (1) is replaced by 30 August 1977.
2. The date 31 December 1976 specified in Articles 12 (2) and 16 (2) is replaced by 30 June 1977.
3. The third indent of Article 5 (1) (d) is amended to read as follows :  
"- 2° for a cuvée composed of constituents from wine-growing zones C Iaa and C I b, C II or C III, provided that the natural alcoholic strength of each constituent is at least 7.5°, 8.5° or 9° respectively."

#### Article 2

Regulation (EEC) No 817/70 is amended as follows :

1. The date 28 February 1977 specified in the second subparagraph of Article 10b (1) is replaced by 30 August 1977.
2. The date 31 December 1976 specified in Article 10b (2) is replaced by 30 June 1977.

#### Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third day following its publication in the Official Journal of the European Communities.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council  
The President